

Our family also published a newspaper in central New York, and I have always been inspired by Shirley's endless energy, good humor, and, yes, strong opinions on many subjects—a woman after my own heart.

□ 1100

I have also always been inspired by Shirley's tenacity and commitment to informing our community with depth and integrity, something that the Rome Daily Sentinel has always done throughout its history.

In addition to being a publisher, Shirley was a beloved mother of five who was active in her church and a member of our local artist community. Shirley's paintings hang in galleries in our region and live on to evoke wonder and inspire serenity to so many.

Shirley was also an honored member of the Order of Saint Barbara, as well as an honorary member of the Northeast Air Defense Sector. Shirley even helped secure the B-52 bomber displayed in Rome at the entrance to the former Griffiss Air Force Base, which she obtained from the national B-52 museum committee.

On behalf of our community and those in the news business who are committed to serving the public as true members of the fourth estate, we are grateful to Shirley Waters for being our standard-bearer. We are also grateful to her for her distinguished service to our community beyond her role as a newspaper publisher.

Her legacy will continue to live on in so many important ways, from the great newspaper she leaves, the Rome Daily Sentinel, to her work which she also loved, to her works of art that are exhibited throughout our region, and her strong belief in our region's greatness and history.

My deepest condolences to the Waters family on the loss of this wonderful, venerable wife, mother, grandmother, and tenacious community leader with a wonderful sense of humor.

RECOGNITION OF TROOPER KEVIN BEACH

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rome Police Chief Kevin Beach who will retire at the end of January after an incredible career and true devotion to public service.

Kevin first joined the Rome Police Department in September of 1994, following in his father's footsteps. Kevin's father, Bruce, also served the department for many years. Kevin showed leadership early on the job and was promoted quickly to the rank of detective after only 6 years.

In 2005, Kevin was appointed detective commander and then deputy chief in 2007. In 2008, he was appointed as the youngest police chief in the history of the city of Rome.

At just 36, Kevin had served the department for only 14 years but was picked for the top spot because of his exemplary track record and strong leadership skills. Kevin's hard work, dedication, and love for the city was evident every day he was on the job.

During his tenure as chief, the department introduced community programs such as Shop with a Cop, Law Enforcement Day, and the creation of a Community Impact Unit. Kevin has also successfully navigated the department through difficult times through the COVID-19 pandemic and the national defund the police movement.

Kevin, thank you for your lifetime of service and commitment to the city of Rome. We are grateful for your devotion to service on behalf of your community. I also want to thank you for your friendship and sage counsel to me and so many others during your important work as our chief. May you enjoy a productive and healthy retirement.

RECOGNITION OF TROOPER DAVID DRAUDT

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, it is often said that law enforcement officers work for a cause, not applause. This is certainly true and today I would like to recognize a trooper from the southern tier of New York's 22nd district who deserves our applause.

Trooper David Draudt went to work on the morning of November 29 with the intent to protect and serve. Yet, on that day Trooper Draudt not only protected and served his community, but he also called on his extensive training to courageously save the life of an unresponsive 2-year-old boy who had choked himself into unconsciousness. Trooper Draudt didn't lace up his boots that morning intent on saving a life. But that is exactly what he did.

Law enforcement officers do not have the opportunity of choosing who or what they encounter each day. They rely on their training and their knowledge and their experiences to respond with honor, courage, and integrity and, of course, compassion to whatever situation may arise. On November 29, that is exactly what Trooper Draudt did.

Today, our cause is applause; applause not just for Trooper Draudt who saved the life of a child, but to all who answer the call to serve.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 4 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

God, our redeemer, preserver, and friend, hear our prayers this day as we seek to live our lives in obedience to You.

For You have not set us apart from this world, but have placed us into our communities, then sent us into positions of authority, so that we would be salt to the Earth; to preserve and protect the ideals on which this country was founded; to enhance and uphold the virtues by which this government was formed; to live our lives according to Your divine Word.

May we not take lightly this extraordinary opportunity You have given us or allow our words or actions to become corrosive or damaging in the exercise of our influence.

Rather, may our faithfulness to Your Word serve the purpose of enhancing the lives of those around us and the purposes for which You have sent us.

Grant us, then, together a peaceful relationship, that the salt that we are and the hallowed responsibilities we share together would serve to glorify You.

In the gift of Your name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

TRANSFORMING BUFFALO'S WATERFRONT

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs law will invest more than \$14 billion this year alone in the Nation's ports and waterways.

In my community, this will provide \$10 million for Times Beach Nature Preserve on Buffalo's Outer Harbor to preserve and improve the natural habitats and parkland.

Once a dumping ground for contaminated Buffalo River sludge, today Times Beach is a vibrant 55-acre home for wildlife and a destination for visitors.

This funding will support work by the United States Army Corps, Buffalo District to fortify the breakwater at

Times Beach, to help restore public access that was lost in storm damage 2 years ago, and to reduce the influence of that kind of damage from happening in the future.

This funding builds on previous Federal Great Lakes and infrastructure investments that are transforming Buffalo's waterfront and revitalizing the western New York community.

CONGRATULATING RIVERHEADS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, high school athletics play an important role in the lives of so many young people in the communities that they live in, which is why I have a policy of speaking from the floor to congratulate my district's State championship teams.

Today, I am here to honor the Riverheads High School football team, which won the VHSL Class 1 State title last month. Not only did the Gladiators best their opponent by an impressive 45-14 point margin, but this victory marked the team's sixth consecutive State championship, the only football program in VHSL history to accomplish such a feat.

And if that weren't monumental enough, the game was also the team's 50th straight win, which is the longest active winning streak in our Nation.

For the past 26 years, this team has been led by Coach Robert Casto, who has sadly announced that he will be retiring at the end of the school year. Coach Casto's remarkable coaching career comes to an end with an overall record of 59 losses and 261 wins, including nine State championships.

Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize this talented football team and their remarkable coach. Go Gladiators.

DEMOCRATS HAVE DELIVERED FOR THE PEOPLE

(Mr. LIEU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LIEU. Madam Speaker, last year Democrats passed the American Rescue Plan that provided funding to schools so they could reopen, funding to cities and States so that first responders, municipal employees, and county employees didn't get laid off, and it got stimulus checks to the American people.

As a result, we were able to have over 6 million jobs created since January 20, 2020, and the lowest unemployment rate now in nearly 50 years.

However, with the opening of our economies across the world, inflation has happened, including in the United States, and that is why I am so pleased that the Biden administration has announced \$14 billion to go to 500 Army Corps of Engineers projects, including

at ports to help with supply chain issues. By making sure we can move goods faster and easier and to address these supply chain issues, we will reduce the cost of goods, and that was because Democrats also passed the infrastructure law. Democrats have delivered for the people.

SANITY MAY BE RETURNING

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, in a political environment where even Democrats have cited the Biden agenda as fiscal insanity, it is reassuring sanity may be returning with the Democrat Washington Post last Tuesday and Thursday being remarkably sane.

On Tuesday, the lead editorial correctly reviewed, "President Biden is facing mounting criticism for inflation's rise to its highest level since 1982. Unfortunately, the White House's latest response is to blame greedy businesses. Economists across the political spectrum are rightly calling out the White House for this foolishness."

On Thursday, front-page headlines were shocking: Inflation for 2021 highest in 40 years. Trend expected to last for months. Prices become potent political threat to Biden.

The Democrat elite think they are smarter than everyone and think Democrat voters and Democrat media are ignorant to believe that trillion-dollar spending costs zero dollars.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years, as the global war on terrorism continues, moving from the Afghanistan safe haven to America, as sadly we saw with the suicide bomber who attacked the synagogue in Texas on Saturday.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DEPUTY SHERIFF SEAN RILEY

(Mrs. MILLER of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Wayne County Deputy Sheriff Sean Riley.

Our communities in Illinois and across the Nation continue to mourn the loss of our fallen hero.

Deputy Riley was called home to be with the Lord on December 29, 2021. He was on duty, responding to assist a motorist when he was shot and killed.

May God continue to comfort this family as they grieve this awful loss. Wayne County Sheriff Otey said, "The only thing Sean cared about more than being a deputy was his family."

Please join me in prayer for the family of Deputy Sean Riley, the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, and our community in Illinois.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.

RIGHT TO LIFE MARCH

(Mr. TAYLOR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to stand in solidarity with the many Americans, including my own constituents from Texas' Third Congressional District, who are here at our Nation's Capital to march for the right to life.

As a father of three wonderful daughters, I know how precious every stage of life is, and I believe it should be protected at every stage.

Every year, I am awed by the outpouring of love and passion so many Texans show by traveling to Washington and voicing their support for sanctity of life. Even more travel to our state capital in Austin to advance the cause in our local communities.

Your engagement is humbling, and it gives me faith that we can become the pro-life generation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the pro-life and faith leaders here in our Nation's Capital and join in fighting to protect innocent human life.

CONGRATULATING GEORGIA BULLDOGS FOOTBALL TEAM

(Mrs. GREENE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am very excited to announce H. Res. 872, which has bipartisanship. The entire Georgia delegation has signed on congratulating the University of Georgia Bulldogs football team for winning the 2022 National Collegiate Athletic Association College Football Playoff National Championship. Go Dawgs.

We are also excited, and I am honored to have everyone's signature on this House resolution honoring the University of Georgia and their great championship win this year in 2022 and Coach Kirby Smart for leading the team to victory this year.

We just want to continue to share our excitement in Georgia, congratulating the University of Georgia.

CONCERNED PARENTS ARE NOT DOMESTIC TERRORISTS

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, concerned parents have a God-given right to make decisions for their child's best interests, not the Federal Government, the Biden administration, or teachers' unions.

Yet, Education Secretary Cardona colluded with private parties to get the FBI to investigate concerned parents and worked with the National School Boards Association to brand the concerned parents involved as domestic terrorists.